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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of this amendment under Rule 116 is merited as it raises no new issues and places the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 6-16, 20-22 remain pending in the application. Claims 4-5 17-19 have been canceled.

Applicants appreciatively note that claims 5, 6, 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In order to expedite the prosecution of this application, and not necessarily because Applicants agree with the rejections, dependent claims 5 and 19 have been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 16, respectively, to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 13, 14 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Davidson et al. (US patent 5,181,167).

Claims 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davidson et al. (US patent 5,181,167).

Claims 1, 4, 7, 11-12, 16, 18 are rejected a 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson (GP 2145571A) in view of Davidson at al.(US patent 5,181,167).

Claims 1, 4, 7-10, 12-14, 16-18, 21-22 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gulick et al (US patent 5,644,277 in view of Davidson at al. (US patent 5,181,167).

In response, allowable claims 5 and 19 have been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 16, thereby placing the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, these rejections should be withdrawn.

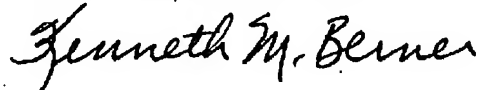
All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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